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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

oplicant: Arling et al.

Serial No.: 09/718,931)

Examiner: no

not yet assigned

Filed:

November 21, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2711

Title: MEDIA RETURN SYSTEM

Docket No.:

81230.578001

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified patent application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action; therefore, no fee is required.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(2)(i), a copy of each U.S. patent listed on Form 1449 is enclosed herewith.

Also in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(2)(iii) copies of the U.S. patent applications listed on Form 1449 (09/418,091 and 09/611,620) are not enclosed herewith.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.104, no representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 and Applicant reserves the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicant does not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 22, 2001

ALTHEMIER & GRAY

10 S. Wacker Drive/Suite 4000

Chicago, Illinois 60606

(312) 715-4000

Certificate of Mailing: The undersigned hereby certifies that this document and its enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this day of April, 2001.

By: Name: Lisa Lyb



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant(s): S. Freeman

Case: **SAR 13471**

Serial No.: 09/470,501 Filed: December 22, 1999

Group Art Unit: 2711

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SMOOTHING SPLICED

DISCONTINUOUS AUDIO STREAMS

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS Washington, D. C. 20231

SIR:

Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R.1.97(e)(1)Certification

The applicants respectfully request that the following references be considered in the examination of the above-identified application. These references were uncovered by a search recently conducted by the European Patent Office acting as the International Searching Authority in applicants' counterpart PCT patent application. The mailing date of the Search Report is March 29, 2001 and this Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of that date. A copy of each reference that is designated as category "X", "Y" or "L", the International Search Report and a completed PTO-1449 is enclosed.

Raymond R. ós∉r Jr., Attorney

Reg. No.

(732) 530 49404

Thomason, Moser and Patterson, LLP 595 Shrewsbury Avenue, First Floor Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

Signature

Date of signature

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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<u> </u>	Under the Paperw	ork Reduction Act of	1995, no persons	are required to respond to a collection of	of information unless it contains a valid CIVIE	control numbe		
Substitu	te for form 1449A/PT	0	-	Complete if Known				
				Application Number	09/718,931			
INFO	PRMATION	DISCLOS	SURE	Filing Date	11/21/2000 Arlingl. ;			
STA	TEMENT B	Y APPLIC	CANT	First Named Inventor				
				Group Art Unit	2711			
	(use as many sh	eets as necessa	ry)	Examiner Name				
Sheet	1	of 1		Attorney Docket Number	81230.588001			

			U.S. PATENT DOCUM	MENTS	
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.1	Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		6,029,239	Brown	2/22/2000	
		5,537,463	Escobosa, et al.	7/16/1996	
		5,515,052	Darbee	5/7/1996	
		5,228,077	Darbee	7/13/1993	
		5,255,313	Darbee	10/19/1993	
		4,959,810	Darbee, et al.	9/25/1990	
	İ	4,319,286	Hanpachern	3/9/1982	
		09/611,091	Hayes, et al.		
		09/418,091	Young, et al.		
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines,		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Office ³	Number⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆	
									
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Examiner Signature	 Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office,



¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.